From: Jerry Chretien
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:30pm

1/23/02

Dear Sirs:

I would only hope that this suit would settle and soon. As an entrepreneur I believe that Microsoft should be able to compete without restraint. I do not find they're giving away their browser any different than AOL sending out hundreds of thousands of discs promoting their online services.

As a business person that is not computer literate and savvy I find that if I stick to Microsoft programs on all of my systems everything seems to run and perform without problems and I always receive the result I was looking for. However, there have been occasions in the past, when different programs have been installed on our systems and the labor and time required to keep them running and to keep them compatible is very expensive. The labor to keep non Microsoft programs running is not the biggest expense item. It's the non-productive time and lost opportunity.

some years ago I made a decision that whenever I bought computers, Servers and software that they would always have the Intel chip and motherboard, and they would be loaded with Microsoft programs. I do not and have never felt like I was being taken advantage of by Microsoft.

As an enttrepreneur I find all the things said about Microsoft to be just so much crying on the part of their competitors. Their competitors either can't build or sustain a product or take it to market yet they want me to suffer by having the government make it more difficult for me to get Microsoft products. Can you imagine trying to keep all your systems up and running with some little known off brand of program that only has a handful of people around the country that know what is going on with the program.

I'm sorry but I only see the government action as making everything more expensive and difficult for me to do business. I also think that the action on the part of the individual states is more political than anything else. Who are they trying to protect? Could it be Kodak, Sun Micro Systems, AOL etc.

Yours truly,

Jerald E. Chretien Portland, Oregon